

City of San Diego
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
February 15, 2012 Monthly Meeting #238 Minutes
Balboa Park Club Santa Fe Room

Meeting Called to Order and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by Chairman B. Abrams

Present Commissioners Alcock, Trambley, Harrison, Dillon, Kauri, Slomanson, Molina de Pick, J. Abrams, Lee, and B. Abrams

Excused Commissioners: Washington, Bauer, and Henry

Absent Commissioner: Mitrovich

Present Staff: Danell Scarborough, Executive Director and Rimah Khouri, Labor Relations Officer

Approval of the Minutes

Motioned by Commissioner Trambley

Motioned was Second by Commissioner Alcock

Motion passed

Presentation and Discussion

***Kath Rogers, Volunteer Coordinator for California Against Slavery
CASE (Californians Against Sexual Exploitation)***

A circulating petition calls for heavier consequences for those convicted of human/sex slave trafficking. Currently the max is 8 year sentences and CASE changes to 15 years. Many exploited women are seen on El Cajon Blvd as prostitutes and are actually slaves and police are not being perceived as a safe resources. Los Angeles is the largest human slave area in the nation and there are estimated 32 million worldwide averaging 12 to 14 years of age. Many victims are domestics girls who are runaways or have no community ties. There is a rise of girls being sold/bought on the internet as it is not as risky as trading drugs and very hard to trace transactions. There are not enough resources to keep up with this issue. There is a lack of law enforcement training and the CASE, if passed, provides for training funds through fines paid. Fiscal analysis states low financial impact.

Point of Order by Executive Director Scarborough that the Commission, per the advice of the City Attorney's Office, cannot take a position on a ballot initiative.

Public Comment

A representative from the SAFE Campaign thanked the Commission for increasing their awareness of this devastating issue.

Old Business

1. Joni Halpern from Supportive Parent Information Network inquired about a letter the Commission was sending regarding the CalFresh program. Commissioner Alcock stated she would follow up on distribution of the letter.

2. Review of new Commission logo was tabled until next meeting.

New Business

2012 Commission Priorities: Commissioners were invited to self-select committees on which to serve. Committees include: Access, Education, Hate-motivated Behavior, Immigrant Rights, Advocacy and Outreach, Media and Communications

Chair's Report

Chair Abrams is working to get UMI Learning Center assistance on drafting a business plan and increasing their eligibility for additional services for the children.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Alcock briefly presented information about Voices for Children and the advocacy work they do.

Executive Director Report

The San Diego Police department presented at City Council Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee and reported that there has been an reduction in hate crimes in San Diego.

The Cesar Chavez Community Breakfast is scheduled for Monday, March 19, 2012 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. and the Human Relations Commission has a table. Also, the Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast is scheduled for Friday, May 25, 2012 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. and the Commission has a table as well.

The Commission is reminded to submit activity reports.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:52pm

Respectfully Submitted by Rimah Khouri